

JAMES R. HELMER, DIRECTOR

Minutes of the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Meeting

Held 6pm, April 9, 2007, San José City Hall 200 E. Santa Clara St, 8th Floor, Room T847

1. **Call to Order** - Chairperson Payne called the meeting to order at 6.05pm.

<u>Present</u>

Charlie Payne, Chair Corrine Winter, Vice-Chair

Bob Halem Lane Parker Eugene Cordero Bart Thielges Yolanda Reynolds Don Barnett Absent

Lawrence DeSantis Luis Mendez

Guests

Celia Chung, Caltrain Marylou Avenzino

Staff

John Brazil, DOT Denelle Fedor, Office of Council District 6

- **2. Approval of Order of Business** Approved.
- 3. Oral Petitions Marylou Avenzino made two requests. First, she asked that the City do something to address the problem of yard waste, garbage cans and recycling bins being left in Bike Lanes and impeding bicyclists. Second, she requested that bicycle-friendly signal detection (including pavement markings) be installed on westbound Thornwood at Santa Teresa and on southbound Pomona at Alma.
- 4. Approval of Minutes of February 12, 2007 and March 12, 2007 Mr. Halem moved approval of the February 12, 2007 minutes. Mr. Thielges seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0. Chairperson Payne noted two corrections in the March 12, 2007 minutes. First, he was absent and Mr. Thielges served as chair. Therefore the minutes should reflect that Mr. Thielges called the meeting to order. Second, in item 6(e) the dollar value of the airport contract was not indicated. Mr. Brazil stated the amount was \$517m. Mr. Halem moved approval of the March 12, 2007 minutes, as amended. Mr. Thielges seconded. The motion passed 4-0-2 (Payne and Cordero abstaining).

Members Reynolds and Winters joined the meeting.

5. New Business

a. Caltrain Bike Plan – Mr. Brazil introduced Ms. Celia Chung from Caltrain. Ms. Chung described the Caltrain Bike Master Plan project, which she is managing. Ms. Chung distributed a handout "Caltrain Bicycle Master Plan: Overview" which described the project schedule and tasks. She encouraged

BPAC members to participate in the public Caltrain Bike Plan Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and provided contact information.

6. Old Business

- a. Transportation Development Act, Article III, (TDA3) FY07-08 Mr. Brazil distributed a handout of recommended projects for TDA3 FY07-08. TDA3 is an annual grant for bike lane striping, sidewalk construction, and bike safety education. Each city is guaranteed an annual amount based on sales taxes revenue. Projects must be approved by City Council. Mr. Brazil reviewed the recommended projects with the committee. He reviewed some of the criteria used to develop the recommendations. After committee discussion, Mr. Halem moved approval, Mr. Thielges seconded. The motion passed 8-0-0.
- b. Bike to Work Day Mr. Brazil reported that for 2007, the statewide Bike to Work Day (BTWD) will be held on May 17, 2007. Traditionally, on the morning of BTWD, the committee organizes and operates one or more Energizer Stations in San José. Energizer Stations are tables with free bicycling information, free breakfast snacks, free bicycle helmets, and other supplies are available to the public. The committee often organizes a media and public official bike ride. At it's March meeting, the committee agreed that last year's strategy of focusing on one location worked well, and agreed the same strategy should be adopted last year. Mr. Brazil reported that he is working with the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group on a possible Council-VIP Bike Ride on the morning of BTWD. Mr. Brazil noted that Gary Richards (The Mercury News' "Mr. Roadshow") has agreed to participate in a morning ride. Vice-Chair Cordero agreed to seek donations from a local market and bike shop. Mr. Parker agreed to provide water for the Energizer Station, and to seek a bike mechanic to provide repairs. Ms. Reynolds agreed to see donations of food for the Energizer Station. Mr. Brazil will coordinate organization, permitting and set up of the Energizer Station. He will also seek participation from San Jose State University's Transportation Solutions program.
- c. San Jose Airport Mr. Brazil reported that he had recently met with airport staff and the contractors (Hensel Phelps) hired to implement the \$517m Phase 1 of the Airport improvement plan. The contractors were receptive to improving bicyclist and pedestrian access and accommodation to and through the airport area over the two to three year project. However, competitive demands for budget could limit physical improvements. Mr. Brazil reported that the airport staff and consultants anticipate being ready to provide BPAC a status report in late summer or early fall 2007. BPAC will have an opportunity to provide input on proposed projects and plans.
- d. Ped/ADA Sidewalk Plan Update No new information.
- e. Numbered Bikeway Update No new information.
- f. Committee Bylaws The committee considered recommending bylaw changes that would result in the committee reporting directly to Council rather than the Director of Transportation. Mr. Brazil noted that Council offices currently have more committees and public meetings to attend than they can reasonably cover. He pointed out that the current system was intended to provide a more efficient method for Council to receive information without council members attending committee meetings all day long. Part of

the current system includes a Council Office Liaison assigned to of the several city committees. Historically, this Council Liaison position has not been participating in BPAC meetings. This year, the office of Council District 6 (Councilmember Oliverio) was assigned as BPAC Liaison. Danelle Fedor from Council District 6 was in attendance. Ms. Fedor ensured the committee that Council District 6 would be taking a more active role as BPAC Liaison. She and Mr. Brazil suggested BPAC give this process a six month trial to see if it addressed committee member concerns. The Committee agreed.

- 7. Staff Report No additional information.
- 8. Committee Member Comments Mr. Parker noted Bicycling Magazine's *Biketown* series highlighted bike friendly cities in the United States. Mr. Thielges reported on VTA BPAC status and noted a consultant hired to review VTA has recommended a reorganization of VTA to improve efficiency. Mr. Payne requested information on which improvements the League of American Bicyclists recommended for San Jose, so that it can seek a higher level Bicycle Friendly Communities award.
- **9. Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7.45pm.